

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTO 04114

NODIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SS, AG, MO

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO BOUMEDIENE (S/S NO. 7603652)

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECRET SECTO 04114

NODIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM SECRETARY

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE WHICH YOU SHOULD CONVEY FROM ME TO BOUMEDIENE. YOU WILL SEE FROM REVISION IN YOUR DRAFT THAT I WANT YOUR MEETING WITH HIM TO BE PRESENTED AS A REVIEW OF OUR BROAD RELATIONSHIP SINCE WHAT ZEGHAR INDICATED AS BOUMEDIENE'S CONCERNS REALLY BOIL DOWN TO QUESTIONING OUR INTENTIONS TOWARD ALGERIA BOTH IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN THE SAHARA. YOU CAN THEN DEAL WITH THE SAHARA IN THAT CONTEXT. SENDING A GENERALLY WORDED MESSAGE WILL HELP PUT YOUR CONVERSATION IN THIS PERSPECTIVE.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR HAVING AGREED TO RECEIVE ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON. AT A TIME WHEN UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON WILL BE REVIEWING WITH YOU IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF OUR WORK TOGETHER ON ECONOMIC MATTERS, I FELT IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL FOR MR. ATHERTON TO DISCUSS WITH YOU THE STATE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP IN OTHER

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AREAS. I UNDERSTAND FROM CONVERSATIONS THAT MR. RACHID

ZEGHAR HAD WITH MR. ROBINSON AND MR. ATHERTON IN WASHINGTON THAT YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THAT RELATIONSHIP, PARTICULARLY ABOUT HOW SOME ASPECTS OF THE SAHARA PROBLEM MAY AFFECT IT.

3. IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BOTH ON GLOBAL ECONOMIC MATTERS AND ON THE SITUATION ACROSS NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST AT THIS TIME

WHEN POSITIONS ON MAJOR ISSUES WILL BE DEVELOPED. WE MUST UNDERSTAEND EACH OTHER AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE, AND I AM CONCERNED THAT SOME OF THE POINTS DESCRIBED BY MR. ZEGHAR AS UNDERLYING YOUR DISQUIET ABOUT THE UNITED STATES POLICY SEEM TO BE BASED ON A PERCEPTION OF OUR POSITION WHICH IS DIFFERENT FROM MINE IN IMPORTANT RESPECTS.

4. IN THE MIDDLE EAST, OUR BASIC POLICY REMAINS AS I HAVE DISCUSSED IT WITH YOU AND FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, AND I CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THT ALGERIAN UNDERSTANDING OUR OUR OBJECTIVES IS IMPORTANT. THE SAHARA PROBLEM COULD, I AGREE, HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR ALL OF US.. PERHAPS THE UNITED STATES CANNOT ACHIEVE ALL THAT YOU MIGHT WISH, BUT IT IS CRUCIAL FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNITED STATES HIGHLY VALUES ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ALGERIA -- AS WITH MOROCCO -- AND IS IN NO WAY WDKING AGAINST ALGERIA. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE ELIMINATE ANY MISUNDERSTANDING AND NEEDLESS CAUSES OF FRICTION ON THIS POINT; OUR SOLE INTEREST IS IN AN HONORABLE, NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. MR. ROBINSON AND MR. ATHERTON WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ALL OF THESE MATTERS WITH YOU IN THE FRANK SPIRIT THAT HAS ALWAYS CHARACTERIZED OUR EXCHANGES.

5. I WANTED TO ASSURE YOU PERSONALLY WITH THS MESSAGE THAT I HIGHLY VALUE MY OWN RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU. WHILE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WE MAY NOT ALWAYS AGREE ON EVERY ISSUE, I WANT HOU TO KNOW OF MY HIGH PERSONAL REGARD FOR YOU AND FOR YOUR STATESMANSHIP. I DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH YOU SO THAT THE ISSUES WHICH CONCERN US BOTH CAN BE DEALT WITH IN WAYS THAT WILL STRENGTHEN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ALGERIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

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6. WARM REGARDS. HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT.
KISSINGER

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